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Tarble Arts Center Newsletter

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# Tarble Arts Center Newsletter October 1997

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# Table Arts Center

## calendar of events

WALTER SORGE: ISRAEL -- AN ARTIST'S IMPRESSIONS  
• through October 5

OCTOBER CULTIVATING CREATIVITY EXHIBIT TOUR SITE  
• through October 7 -- Cross County Mall, Mattoon;  
Sponsored by Consolidated Communications Inc.

DAY OF THE DEAD/DIA DE LOS MUERTOS  
• October 3-November 23

1997 ART FACULTY EXHIBITION  
• October 11 - November 30, Main Galleries  
• Artists' Reception, Sunday, October 12, 2-4pm

DOCENT MEETING  
• Monday, October 13, 10am-noon

BUS TRIP: *RENOIR'S PORTRAITS* AT THE ART INSTITUTE  
OF CHICAGO  
• Registration Deadline: October 15  
• Trip: November 8, 8 am-9:30pm

WORKSHOPS REGISTRATION DEADLINES  
• October 17 -- CALAVERAS (PAPIER MACHE)  
• October 31 -- WATERCOLOR and PAPERMAKING

FICTION READING BY ROBERT HELLENGA  
• Wednesday, October 22, 4pm

CHAMBER MUSIC: EIU FACULTY ENSEMBLES --  
AN ALL SCHUBERT CONCERT  
• Sunday, October 26, 3pm

October

1997

## exhibitions

### WALTER SORGE: ISRAEL – AN ARTIST'S IMPRESSIONS

- through October 5, Main Galleries

The one hundred watercolors that make up this exhibition were created while Eastern Illinois University Art Professor Walter Sorge was on sabbatical in Israel. Dr. Sorge states, "The recent painting excursion in Israel harbored no hidden political agenda – nor should it be considered as a religious pilgrimage. I was deeply fascinated by many aspects of the Israeli way of life -- the country and its people. And, as an artist I simply responded in the only way I know how -- in visual form." Says Sorge, "It is hoped that the one hundred paintings in this exhibition help the viewer gain some insight and feeling for the beauty, intensity, and excitement of this land."

### DAY OF THE DEAD/DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

- October 3-November 23, Brainard Gallery

This exhibition includes both Mexican popular art forms and works by contemporary Mexican and Latino artists who use *el Día de los Muertos* as their inspiration. Traditional Mexican popular or folk arts include an assortment of ceramic miniatures that portray skeletons at work or play; skull masks; examples of papel picado, or cut paper pieces; tin ornaments; papier-mâché figures, polychromed ceramic candelabras and sculptures, and wood carvings. The exhibit will also include photographs, *pan de muertos*, and *calaveras de dulce*, or sugar skulls. From contemporary Latino artists are an artist's quilt by Vicki Chavez, a *nicho* by Anita Rodriguez, and ceramic skull cups by Richard Corney. Area collectors who are loaning works for the exhibition are Patricia Bolin, Joe Butler, Richard Crome, Edith Hedges, and Graham Lewis and Kit Morice.

*El Día de los Muertos* (the Day of the Dead) is the climax of a three day celebration held October 31 - November 2. A blending of pre-Columbian and Catholic beliefs, this holiday celebrates the lives of departed relatives and friends, and is observed throughout Mexico and other Latin American countries. Pre-Columbian peoples held harvest ceremonies and invited the spirits of the dead to come back to visit them on certain days of the year. After the Spanish Conquest and the subsequent conversion of many indigenous peoples to Catholicism, the Mexican people began to meld the observances of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day with their own traditions.

Today, *el Día de los Muertos* in Mexico is marked by three days of feasts and rituals which welcome back into homes the spirits of departed loved ones. Special

foods are made, including candy skulls of sugar and chocolate for children and *pan de muertos*, or "bread of the dead"; flowers, especially marigolds, are harvested to decorate the graves of family and friends; altars, or *ofrendas*, are constructed in homes and public spaces; and a myriad of art forms are made to coincide with this fiesta.

#### 1997 ART FACULTY EXHIBITION

- October 11 - November 30, Main Galleries

This annual exhibition presents recent works in a variety of media by artists of the Art Department faculty, faculty emeritus, and adjunct faculty members. Nearly all studio Art areas included in Eastern's Art program are represented by the participating artists, including drawing, painting, sculpture, metals/jewelry, weaving, ceramics, two- and three-dimensional design, and graphic design. With Dr. Walter Sorge retiring at the end of fall semester, this will be his last Art Faculty Exhibition as an active faculty member. He has been during the summer creating a new group of color etchings, and this will be their first showing.

## events

#### TEACHERS FALL INSTITUTE WORKSHOP: MEXICAN TIN ORNAMENTS

- October 10, 8:30am-12pm

Area teachers are invited to attend this program. The Institute will begin with a coffee/social hour, during which information outlining the Tarble's education programs will be available. Next, two concurrent activities will take place: a guided tour of *Day of the Dead/Día de los Muertos* and a studio workshop, *Mexican Tin Ornaments*. This workshop is co-presented by EIU's Art Department and the Tarble. A lesson plan swap shop will conclude the morning's activities. Interested teachers are asked to pre-register by calling Kit Morice at 581-2787.

#### RECEPTION: 1997 ART FACULTY EXHIBITION

- Sunday, October 12, 2-4pm

Celebrate the exhibition with the participating artists at this public reception.

#### DOCENT MEETING

- October 13, 10am-noon

The meeting will consist of tours of the 1997 *Art Faculty Exhibition* and *Day of the Dead/Día de los Muertos*. Persons interested in learning more about the Tarble Arts Center's Docent Education Program are invited to attend.

SEATS AVAILABLE FOR BUS TRIP TO SEE *RENOIR'S PORTRAITS* AT THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

- Registration Deadline: October 15
- Trip: November 8, 8am-9:30pm

This exhibition includes 65 works from public and private collections world-wide, and is the first exhibition that focuses on Renoir's skills as a portrait painter. The cost of the trip, including transportation, ticket, and dinner, is \$55.00 for Tarble Arts Center members and \$68.00 for non-members. To register, please phone (217) 581-2787 for more information. The registration deadline is 5pm October 15th.

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION DEADLINES

- October 17 – CALAVERAS (PAPIER MACHE)
- October 31 – WATERCOLOR and PAPERMAKING

Registration is currently being taken for three workshops offered in October and November. *Day of the Dead Calaveras* (papier mâché skulls; ages 9 & up) meets on Tuesdays, 7-9pm, October 21 & 28. *Watercolor: Traditional and New Approaches* (ages 15 & up) will meet on Sundays from 1-3:30pm, November 2 & 9. *Exotic Fibers for Papermaking* is scheduled for Wednesday, November 5 from 6:30-9:30pm. For more information, please refer to the Fall 1997 Classes & Workshops brochure for complete workshop descriptions, or call the Tarble at 581-ARTS (2787).

FICTION READING BY ROBERT HELLENGA

- Wednesday, October 22, 4pm

This award-winning Illinois author will read from his best-selling novel *Sixteen Pleasures* and other works. Robert Hellenga is a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship and six Illinois Arts Council fellowships. New Yorker magazine described *Sixteen Pleasures* as "elegantly moving" and the book received the 1995 Fiction Award from the Society of Midland Authors. A professor of English at Knox College, Hellenga received his BA from the University of Michigan and PhD from Princeton University. A new novel by Hellenga, *Fall of a Sparrow*, is due out from Scribners next July. This reading is sponsored by the EIU English Department.

CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT: EIU FACULTY ENSEMBLES

- Sunday, October 26, 3pm

This all Franz Schubert concert, coordinated by Dr. George Sanders, is the first of the 1997-98 Tarble Arts Center Chamber Music Series. Making up the program are: *Sonatina for Clarinet and Piano* (Richard Barta - clarinet and David Hobbs - piano); *Piano Quintet in A major ("Trout")*, in five movements (Susan Teicher - piano, Donald Tracy - bass, Gretchen Tracy - cello, Thomas LeVeck -

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violin, Dan Powers - viola); *Der Hirt auf dem Felsen* (*The Shepherd on the Rock*) for voice, clarinet and piano (Marilyn Coles - mezzo soprano, Richard Barta - clarinet, George Sanders - piano). The members of the Eastern Illinois University Music faculty are joined by Thomas LeVeck, who is serving for Dr. Hyunsai Lee while he is on sabbatical leave, and Dan Powers from Terre Haute. PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE FROM THE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER.

Tickets are available at the door the day of the concert, or in advance from the Eastern Illinois University Music Department, co-sponsor of the series. Individual tickets per concert are \$4.50, \$2.50 for students and senior citizens. Call Eastern's Music Department office at 217/581-3010 for ticket information. Also appearing in the 1997-98 Tarble Arts Center Chamber Music Series will be BACH (Baroque Artists of Champaign-Urbana, 7pm on February 22), and the American Chamber Trio (3pm on April 19).

## from the director

October is national Arts & Humanities Month. A calendar/publication listing many (but not all!) of the cultural events taking place in Coles County has been prepared with support from the City of Charleston and Eastern's College of Arts & Humanities. My thanks to all of the many individuals who contributed information for the calendar, and to the City of Charleston and its Tourism Advisory Board for supporting this promotional effort. There are two remarkable things about the calendar. As extensive as it is, not all cultural events taking place in October are listed (some came in too late for inclusion). And very few of these events were planned especially for Arts & Humanities Month. There are about this many cultural events taking place in the area on any given month! My hope is that the calendar will be the first step to more fully capitalize on this rich resource.

I am pleased to announce that the Tarble Arts Center has been granted \$9,070 by the Illinois Arts Council to support the 1997-98 exhibition and education program. Because IAC funding is awarded on a competitive basis, this grant not only provides needed program funding, but serves as an indication of the quality of programming presented by the Tarble. In addition to IAC grants, Tarble programs and activities are made possible through the support of its members, special patrons, corporate sponsors, and Eastern Illinois University.

-- Michael Watts



## from the curator

Teachers Institute Day and the Fall Fifth Grade Enrichment Program, two of the Tarble's education programs that are offered specifically to area teachers and their students, take place in October. I would like to take this opportunity to thank a number of individuals who have contributed to the success of both programs.

Teachers Institute Day, organized by the Regional Office of Education, has grown to accommodate greater numbers of participants each year. The Tarble Arts Center serves as a site for regional Institute activities, offering a half-day program to teachers in Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie, and Shelby counties. This year, institute activities include information about Tarble programs for the schools, a guided tour of *Day of the Dead/Día de los Muertos*, a Mexican tin ornaments workshop, and a lesson plan swap shop. This expanded program schedule would not be possible without the assistance of EIU Art Education faculty member Dr. Patricia Belleville and her students. Dr. Belleville will be presenting the hands-on portion of the program while I am leading exhibition tours, and her students are assisting with the studio workshop and with the lesson plan swap shop. Thus, a greater range of activities is taking place this year and the Tarble can accommodate a larger group of teachers than it has in years past.

Dr. Belleville and her students enrolled in Introduction to Art Education and Art Education in Elementary Schools are also working with the Tarble to present the Fall Fifth Grade Enrichment Program, offered annually to fifth grade classroom teachers from Jefferson Elementary School in Charleston. The success of this program is to a large degree determined by the quality of instruction the student docent/teacher provides for their fifth grade audience; a crucial factor is how well the students have been prepared to perform this task. The quality of instruction provided by these "student teachers" has been excellent, due largely to the efforts of Dr. Belleville to prepare them for this role. I am pleased to continue this partnership with Eastern's Art Department, and I look forward to additional opportunities to expand the Tarble's role in providing quality educational experiences in the arts for our area school populations.

-- Kit Morice

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## upcoming

Tarble Closed for Thanksgiving -- November 27 & 28

11th Annual Christmas Art Sale -- December 5 & 6

Xu Bing: Installation -- December 2 - January 11

Works On Paper and Small Sculpture from the Collection -- Dec. 6 - Jan. 11

## information

### Tarble Arts Center Staff:

Michael Watts, Director

David Pooley, Registrar

James K. Johnson, Dean, College of Arts & Humanities

Kit Morice, Curator of Education

Fran Wittenberg, Secretary

### Tarble Arts Center Advisory Board Officers:

Jon Laible, President

Therese Supple Kincade, Vice President

John Armstrong, Secretary

Open Hours: 10am-5pm Tues.-Fri., 10am-4pm Sat., 1-4pm Sun., or by appointment; closed Mondays and holidays

Admission: Admission is free to the galleries and all events, except as noted

Location: South 9th Street at Cleveland Avenue on the Eastern Illinois University campus, Charleston

For Information: 217/581-2787 (phone); 217/581-2722 (fax); cfmw@eiu.edu (e-mail)

The Tarble Arts Center, a division of the College of Arts & Humanities, is partially supported by Tarble Arts Center membership contributions and by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.



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